

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00797 251050Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00
/034 W

-----129915 251054Z /14

P 251040Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7497

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 797

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, PORG

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ

REF: (A) NICOSIA 737 (B) ANKARA 2226

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS FOR
CODEL SOLARZ ON APRIL 3:

1145 HOURS, PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU

1215 HOURS, HOUSE PRESIDENT MICHAELIDES

1300 HOURS, FONMIN ROLANDIS

1930 HOURS, DINNER WITH TFSC PRESIDENT DENKTASH

EMBASSY IS WORKING ON ALL OTHER APPOINTMENTS AND TRAVEL
PLANS REQUESTED BY SOLARZ.

2. WE ARE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT SOLARZ' CYPRUS-TURKEY
TRAVEL PLANS. IT IS CLEAR THAT ANY ROUTING WILL CAUSE
POLITICAL PROBLEMS. LARNACA-ANKARA VIA JUSMMAT A/C
WOULD OFFEND GOT (REF. B) AND TFSC. GOC WOULD TAKE
STRONG PUBLIC AND DIPLOMATIC STAND AGAINST ERCAN-ANKARA
ROUTING. IF NOT INFORMED PRIOR TO THE FACT GOC
WOULD TAKE THE POSITION THAT THIS EMBASSY HAD DISSEMBLED
ON AN IMPORTANT ISSUE, RESULTING AT BEST IN SERIOUS LOSS
OF TRUST IN SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICERS BY IMPORTANT GOC
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OFFICIALS SUCH AS FONMIN, FONMINDIRGEN, TO SAY NOTHING
OF PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU. BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES WOULD
COMPLAIN IF AKROTIRI-ANKARA ROUTING USED ALTHOUGH WE
BELIEVE FALLOUT WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. THIS OPTION APPEARS
PRECLUDED BY SHORT OPERATING HOURS OF AKROTIRI (0600-1400
LOCAL) AND NEED TO OBTAIN CLEARANCE FROM MOD UK FOR ANY
CHANGE IN OPERATING HOURS.

3. ANALYSIS ABOVE LEADS US TO THE CONCLUSION THAT SOLARZ SHOULD BE ADVISED NOT TO VISIT CYPRUS ON THIS TRIP. IF HE INSISTS ON CYPRUS VISIT AND USE OF ERCAN, IT IS IMPERATIVE IT BE MADE CLEAR TO GOC BEFORE THE FACT THAT THIS IS THE CONGRESSMAN'S PERSONAL DECISION.
CRAWFORD

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